THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) The unauthorised constructions, encroachments and felling of trees in the prohibited and regulated area around the protected monument is violating the Master plan of the temple prepared by the State Govt. and adversely affecting the environs of the monument.

(b) The removal of the unauthorised construction is within the purview of the State Government who are seized of the matter.

Tax on Sports Goods

1492. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sports goods industry has represented for removal of import duties on raw material and for abolition of sales tax on sports goods, to give a boost to the industry; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction in respect thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) With a view to bring about reduction of the import duty on raw materials and abolition of sales tax on sports goods the Government has taken up the matter with the Ministry of Commerce and the State Governments respectively. With regard to reduction of import duty on raw material like cork etc. the Ministry of Commerce has stated that in the union Budget 1997-98 various concessions have been given to the sports goods industry by way of reduction of import duty on PU leather from 40% to 30%, reduction of import duty on Melton Cloth (falling under Chapter 51 under sub-heading 51.06 to 51.13) from 50% to 40% abolition of Customs duty on Log Wood and Cork, concessional Customs Duty of 10% or the basic on nylon gut, willow clefts, ashwood or beachwood and cork bottoms etc. on the abolition of sales tax, the State Govt. of Gujarat has stated that it is exempted Sports Goods from Sales Tax under the Sales Tax Act, 1969. The Government of Andaman and Nicobar have stated that no Sales Tax has been levied in the Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar on Sports Goods. The Government of Maharashtra, Pondicherry, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu have however not agreed to abolish the sales tax fully. The matter is being persued with the remaining State Governments/UTs.

CAT Directive for Employment to a Boxing Champion in the Railways

1493. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a former Bengal Champion had represented the Eastern Railway in the 43rd Inter Railway Boxing Championship in 1987 on the assurance of getting employment in the Railways;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Central Administrative Tribunal, in its Judgement in 1993, had directed the Eastern Railway to consider the former Bengal Champion's application immediately and grant him suitable job from the Sports quota; and

(c) if so, the action of Government regarding long delay to give him appointment, inspite of the Judgement of CAT?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) One non-Railway Boxer, Shri Biswajit Paul, was allowed to participate on behalf of Eastern Railway in the Inter-Railway Boxing Championship at Chennai in 1987-88 only to adjudge his performance.

(b) and (c) Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) Calcutta in their orders

dated 19.2.96 and 18.3.97 had directed Railways to consider the above said Boxer for appointment against sports quota, if found suitable.

Accordingly, his case was examined and it has been decided to appoint him in Group 'D' post after the necessary medical examination.

इतिहास की पुस्तकों का पुनर्लेखन

1494. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या **मानव संसाधन विकास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि कुछ राज्य, इस तथ्य के बावजूद कि "शिक्षा" समवर्ती सूची के अन्तर्गत आती है, अपने राज्यों में इतिहास की पुस्तकों का पुनर्लेखन कर रहे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस प्रकार की घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए कोई पहल की है?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी): (क) और (ख) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी।

अमीर खुसरो के जन्म स्थान पर स्मारक

1495. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या **मानव संसाधन विकास** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सुप्रसिद्ध कवि और महान संगीतकार अमीर खुसरो के जन्म स्थान पटियाली (जिला एटा) में उनसे संबंधित कोई स्मारक चीज नहीं बची है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार उनसे संबंधित जानकारी एवं विरासत एकत्र करके उनके जन्म स्थान पर कोई स्मारक बनायेगी?

मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्री (डा० मुरली मनोहर जोशी): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) सरकार के पास ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है।

Incidence of Minor Girls' Marriages

1496. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of marriages of minor girls, as per the census of 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1991, State-wise;

(b) the rate of growth/decline of such marriages; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) As per the Census of 1961, 1971, 1981 and 1991, the number of married females in the age group of 0-19, State-wise is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(b) The rate of growth/decline of female marriages in the age-group of 0-19 years in India is as follows:

Year	Decadal rate of growth/ decline (%)	Decadal population growth rate (%)
1961	—	—
1971	(+) 13.10	24.80
1981	(−) 1.40	24.66
1991	(−) 4.78	23.85

(c) Since 1971, there is decline in the child marriages. The decline is because of various steps taken by the Government of India which includes enforcement of Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929. Awareness Generation, Media Campaigns, Education of girls, increased employment opportunities for girls etc.

Statement

Incidence of Minor Girls' Marriages (In the age group 0-19) (Figures in Lakhs)

S.No.	Name of State/Union Territory	Number of married females as per the Censuses 1961	1971	1981	1991
1.	Andhra Pradesh	*	14.98	14.38	15.21
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	*	0.07	0.03	0.01

* States/UTs not constituted.